



## OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Superintendent

### THINK FOOD School Nutrition Programs August 2008



#### HOLD AND RECALL REMINDER

Holds and recalls on food serve a valuable purpose. They remove products from commerce that have quality problems or that may cause harm.

It is critical to be able to track food within your own facility so that a suspect food can quickly be located. The most important pieces of information for identifying specific commodity products are the contract and delivery order numbers. These can be found on the boxes or case packaging, but are NOT usually found on the individual units within a case.

If the product is removed from the original case, the identity of the product can be lost. To be better prepared for a hold or recall, we suggest that when you remove

products from their original packaging, you use some method or system for maintaining identifying numbers. This could be as simple as writing the contract and delivery order numbers on a blank label and sticking it on one of the product units.

It is also important to effectively manage your inventory to ensure that quality products are being served. The most basic rule of inventory management is first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Foods delivered to your school first (first in) should be the first items served (first out). You can achieve an acceptable level of accuracy by **marking the cases with the date you receive them and practicing FIFO**.





### JUST PEAR-FECT

August was National Pear Month. A great source of fiber, potassium and vitamins, the pear is perfect fresh, canned or frozen for a host of recipes.

This summer the USDA offered **Bonus Pear Halves**. We received one truckload that will be shipped on Shipment 5. Since the pears were not listed on the January commodity order form, you will need to order them using a commodity request form. Fax your commodity requests to (406) 444-2955.

### SHIPPING/HANDLING COST\$

This year the shipping and handling charge for RCCIs and Private Schools will remain at \$3.55 plus a fuel surcharge per case. You will receive an invoice for this at the end of the school year.

### DONATED FOODS VALUE

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Commodity Assistance Rate for school year 2008-09 is .2075 cents per meal. This is an increase of 2 cents from the previous school year.



### SCHEDULED TRAININGS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Administrative    Regional    Training:**  
This training is for school

administrators, clerks and secretaries. Learn about free and reduced-price meal applications, program requirements, and much more. Three hour trainings are planned for ***September 24 in Billings, September 30 in Great Falls, October 7 in Havre, October 22 in St. Regis, and November 18 in Wolf Point.*** Administrative training will be from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. A training for the Kalispell area will be conducted at a later date.

### **Foodservice    Manager    Regional Training:**

This training for foodservice managers will provide something for everyone, both new and experienced. Topics will include what to expect during a review, program requirements, tips and tricks for filling out paperwork, and a chance to exchange ideas with others. Training will occur on ***September 24 in Billings, September 30 in Great Falls, October 7 in Havre, October 22 in St. Regis, and November 18 in Wolf Point.*** Foodservice Manager training will be from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. A training for the Kalispell area will be conducted at a later date.

Locations and registration information for these trainings will be posted on the OPI School Nutrition Web site at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/index.html>. Schools will also be notified via e-mail once locations have been determined.

